

**Dates to
Remember
in 2014!**

**PQA Awards
Luncheon
October 22**

**PIF Proposals
Due
October 10**

**PMN General
Meeting
November 5**

**PMN and PMN
Alumni
Holiday
Reception
December 11**

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Network**



QUALITY MATTERS



2014 Fall e-Newsletter. A newsletter supporting managers and employees in promoting the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of County public service.

COMMISSION NEWS



PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY AWARDS

October 22, 2014

"Ahead of the Curve" is the theme for the 28th Productivity and Quality Awards (PQA) ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, October 22, 2014, in the Grand Hall of the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion at the Music Center. Meteorologist Rich Fields of KCBS2/KCAL9, will be the Master of Ceremonies. Festivities begin at 11:30 a.m.

The Quality and Productivity Commission, in partnership with the Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Office, sponsors the annual event to honor innovative projects that enhance productivity, improve the quality of County services and result in cost savings.

After an all-day evaluation of the entries by department Productivity Managers, Commissioners selected the Top 10 projects and Commission Special Award recipients and then conducted on-site visits to further examine the award winners.

Now, departments eagerly wait for the PQA luncheon ceremony where everyone will find out which projects will receive the coveted Gold, Silver, and Bronze Eagle awards.

A full report on the PQA event will appear in the winter Quality Matters eNewsletter. Stay tuned!



"IN MEMORIUM"



It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of Commissioner Gerald "Gerry" Nadler on July 28, 2014.

Commissioner Nadler was appointed to the Quality and Productivity Commission in 1997. He quickly became a strong leader on the

Commission, serving on the Productivity Investment Board, Strategic Foresight Working Group, and Leadership Conference Committees.

He is survived by Elaine, his wife of 67 years, his brother Melvin, three children, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Gerry will truly be missed and is thanked for his outstanding service to the Commission and the residents of Los Angeles County.

[Read more on Commissioner Nadler...](#)

PRODUCTIVITY MANAGERS' NETWORK

Productivity and Quality Awards (PQA)

Evaluation at the Marina

August 6, 2014

On Wednesday, August 6, 2014, the Productivity Managers' Network held their PQA evaluation session at Burton Chase Park Community Center in Marina del Rey.



Each year, Managers spend the day enjoying the sun, fresh air, and views of the Marina while reading and evaluating all PQA entries. Their evaluation provides the basis for the top award winners at the PQA Awards ceremony in October.

This year, the PQA Committee decided to recognize the project with the "best title." The winner went to the Departments of Mental Health and Community and Senior Services for their project entitled "Hope on the Horizon."

It turned out to be a great day and more importantly, the top projects were identified during the process.

[Read more...](#)



PRODUCTIVITY INVESTMENT FUND

"LOANS AND GRANTS AWARDED TO DEPARTMENTS"



Established by the Board of Supervisors in 1984, the Productivity Investment Fund (PIF) program is used to help departments jump start pilot projects, develop creative strategies to enhance services, improve employee productivity, and produce cost benefits.

The Commission solicits proposals each quarter and carefully reviews project merits in a three-step vetting process before approval.

To view projects approved for loans, grants, or a combination of both in Fiscal Year 2013-2014, [click here](#).

The next PIF Proposals will be due on:

October 10, 2014

"Funded Project Highlight"
Medical Examiner-Coroner
(\$40,000 Grant)

The Commission is pleased to announce the recent approval of a \$40,000 grant to the Medical Examiner-Coroner for their Automated Real-Time Temperature/Environmental Monitoring System.



The department wanted to replace the old, time-consuming, labor-intensive temperature/environmental monitoring process with a modernized solution that will provide fully-integrated automated temperature and humidity sensors that are electronically monitored and recorded into a computer database that allows for easy access and retrieval of archived information. Real time alerts of any temperature/environmental issues will help prevent issues that potentially could lead to the loss of, or damage to, the integrity of stored evidence, sensitive equipment, expensive reagents, biological specimens, and to the decedents.

The Commission looks forward to hearing how the system has improved services and whether any cost savings has occurred.

[Read more on the project...](#)

DEPARTMENT VISITS



The Commission visits all County departments on a two-year cycle and meets with the department head. The purpose is to gain insight of departmental operations and priorities and to assist the department in enhancing quality and productivity.

The Commission visited the following departments during the third quarter:

- [Public Defender](#) (July 23)
- [Public Health](#) (July 24)
- [Parks and Recreation](#) (July 30)
- [Child Support Services](#) (July 31)
- [Fire](#) (August 7)
- [Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk](#) (August 14)

Click on the link above to see the programs and strategies each of these departments are using to improve quality and productivity.